

"To listen well is as powerful a means of communication and influence as to talk well"

John Marshall



WRISC News

Edition 9, August 2016

BREAK THE CYCLE CAMPAIGN

WRISC, in collaboration with BADAC and Silverpod Productions, is proud to release series of powerful video clips

WRISC, in collaboration with BADAC (Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-op) and Silverpod Productions, and with the support of the Victorian Indigenous Family Violence Strategy Community Initiatives Fund, have produced a powerful series of video clips around the theme of family violence.

These videos were developed through listening and building on stories and artwork, from both adults and children. Some videos feature an adult's experience of family violence, and others feature a child's experience of family violence.

The videos were produced and directed by Silverpod Productions. The clips can be viewed on Youtube by clicking on the titles below.

Please share these clips to spread the message.

[Behind Closed Doors:](#)

[No Excuse:](#)

[I Wish:](#)

[My Family:](#)

[A New Place:](#)

[The Last Time:](#)

[Addendum:](#)



Facts about Family Violence

- Violence in family and intimate relationships is mostly committed by men against women
- Violence and abuse is about power and control. The person using the violence is seeking to control their partner or family member's behaviour or choices. Using violence is always a choice made by the person using violence.
- Violence and abuse of any form is unacceptable and a breach of human rights.

The story behind the stories...

...the making of the videos featuring children's voices within family violence

"I am so proud of these works as they put children's voices and art therapy into the story of family violence," *WRISC Children's Counsellor and Art Therapist*

Within households where there is family violence all too often children do not have a voice. As a feminist agency, WRISC recognises the gendered nature of family violence. In most cases, it is male to female violence. Violence can take the form of physical, emotional, social, financial or sexual assaults. These acts are intended to gain power and control over women and children.

For children, another aspect of the violence can be in actively destroying the connection between mother and child, which leaves children vulnerable to long term attachment issues and psychological distress. Mothers are often trying to survive physical assaults and keep their family safe as a primary concern. This can leave mothers traumatised and unable to provide reassurance and safety as they do not know when the next assault will occur.

The aim of this project was to give children a way to express their experiences of growing up in a household with a violent father. Children can also be potent agents for change within families—when mothers hear the impact of the violence on children it can often be the trigger for them to seek help to leave the relationship. In men's behaviour change programs, it can sometimes be the voice of the children that assist men to genuinely acknowledge the impacts of their violent behaviour on their family and motivate them to seek help.

WRISC Children's Counselling Team



WRISC has a new Facebook page!

WRISC is in the process of constructing our new Facebook page. The title of our page is WRISC Family Violence Support, or find us [here](#). By using Facebook, WRISC aims to:

- ⇒ Promote the role WRISC plays in the Central Highlands Region of Victoria in providing support to women and children experiencing family violence
- ⇒ Provide information about the services WRISC offers
- ⇒ Give contact and location information, opening hours, link to website
- ⇒ Act as a voice to encourage awareness and discussion of issues around family violence in the Central Highlands Region of Victoria, and the wider Australian community
- ⇒ Publicise and promote special events and happenings relevant to the work of WRISC.

PILOT PROJECT WITH VICTORIA POLICE

Victoria Police (VicPol) and WRISC Family Violence Support work closely together. The Pilot Project has evolved to enable both organisations to understand each other's work and how each organisation can work more closely and more effectively together.

The aim of the project is to identify 3 vulnerable clients who would gain benefit from a combined VicPol/WRISC "working together" approach. It is hoped that working together will enable a more holistic approach for the women and families we work with.

WRISC and Victoria Police have signed a Protocol and look forward to working together with the focus on providing the best support to the most vulnerable clients.

Sergeant Justin Johnston, VicPol, and WRISC Aboriginal Program Team Leader, Angela, sign the Protocol for the Pilot Project.





THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO AT HOP TEMPLE

For the month of September, Hop Temple is supporting WRISC Family Violence Support. Located in Ballarat, WRISC supports women and children in the Central Highlands Region of Victoria who are experiencing family/domestic violence.

Hop Temple is Ballarat's most elusive bar hidden down an iconic Ballarat laneway. Book a table of family, friends and colleagues for a great night out while supporting WRISC.

DATES: Thursday nights: **September 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

EYES DOWN: 7:30pm

ADDRESS: Back of 24—28 Armstrong St North

BOOKINGS: Table bookings recommended. 5317 7158 info@hoptemple.com.au

Participation is by gold coin donation per round. See you there!

wrisc.org.au

hoptemple.com.au



SEE THIS GREAT CONCERT AND SUPPORT WRISC AT THE SAME TIME!

Book tickets to see this concert starring two of the greats of Australian music—Brian Cadd and Colleen Hewett—and Colleen will donate \$10 for each RTY ticket sold to local family violence organisations, including WRISC.

To ensure that your donation happens, you must select Rotary (RTY) ticket when booking.

You can purchase your tickets [here](#).

Dennis Smith Presents

TWO OF THE GREATS

BRIAN CADD COLLEEN HEWETT



Select **Rotary (RTY)** ticket when booking.
Colleen donates \$10 for **each RTY** ticket sold
– for local organisations **including WRISC**

WENDOUREE CENTRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST

Bookings www.wcpa.com.au or 03 5338 0980

   

     

Colleen is proud to be an ambassador for Violence Free Families

Are you a WRISC member?

- ♦ Would you like to become more involved in the work of WRISC?
- ♦ Would you like to contribute to WRISC in a more meaningful way?
- ♦ Do you have skills and expertise which you would like to share with WRISC and support women and children in your community?

WRISC is inviting Ordinary Members to express interest in joining Board facilitated working groups. From time to time these working groups are seeking short term and/or ongoing membership. Examples of working groups include:

- BIG (Big Ideas Group)
- Finance and Risk Working Group
- Marketing and Communications Working Group
- Disability Action Plan Working Group
- Multicultural Working Group
- Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group

If you would like to express interest, please contact Sandra on 5333 3666 or email sandrag@wrisc.org.au

(For enquiries about becoming a WRISC member, please contact Sandra as above.)

Thank you to all our donors/ sponsors

Kind and generous donations from organisations, private philanthropists and various grants enable us to continue to service the increasing number of requests for help. We sincerely thank our loyal and generous supporters.



Can you help?

If you would like to make a contribution, our bank details are:

BSB: 063-507 Acct: 10042491

Name: WRISC Family Violence Support

OR

Donate online via PayPal [here](#).

Donations of \$2 or more to WRISC Family Violence Support are tax deductible.

What do you think?

WRISC appreciates communication and feedback regarding the content of this newsletter. If you would like to make contact, please email the Communications Officer:

alisonc@wrisc.org.au



WRISC exists to change the lives of women and children affected by family violence. We promote safe homes, strong families and respectful relationships.

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Facebook: [@wriscfamilyviolencesupport](https://www.facebook.com/wriscfamilyviolencesupport)